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REHEARSAL FOR RECONVERSION

The dispute over the first step toward industrial reconversion was not wartime Washington's most spectacular battle, but it was one of the most important. Apparently it was also bitter. But the final agreement seems sensible, fair and promising of progress.

WPB Chief Donald Nelson has been declared the winner since his four-point program was finally approved. But it is more significant that no one seems to be the loser—not even the Army and Navy, Manpower Commissioner McNutt, and the various WPB vice chairmen and business men who opposed the program strongly.

First of all, there is the assurance that this step toward reconversion will not upset Army and Navy requirements. These requirements change with tactics, and tactics change with the tides of battle, so production schedules will still be subject to change without much notice. But war needs—manpower as well as material—will come first.

The start toward reconversion seems, to put it simply, like the type of play rehearsal called a "walk-through." This takes place early in the play's preparation. The actors don't yet know their lines. Their main concern is learning where they enter and exit, when they stand, sit, cross the stage, and so on.

This wouldn't happen if the actors simply sat and recited their lines until a week before the opening. Neither would reconversion work smoothly if an entire industry waited until its last member in war work had fulfilled its contracts.

To pursue the theatrical comparison, the company's most experienced actor will probably learn his lines and stage business much more quickly than the fledgling performer. And the best established organizations, though their efficiency may keep them longer at war work, should be able to reconvert and regain their positions more easily than the less efficient factories with a head start.

The new reconversion program is not going to produce any appreciable amount of consumer goods immediately. And it isn't a cure-all for the hard work and shortages ahead. But the preparation now should help to prevent unemployment and chaos later.

As Senator Truman of Missouri said of the plan: "The time for discussion is past, and there is no satisfactory alternative for action. A start now will provide experience which may save many months when the rush of reconversion begins."

PROGRESS

Germany has abandoned plans for a massive, Hitler-designed monument to commemorate the "total defeat of the Allies." It was to have been 4200 feet long, 2500 feet wide, and 1000 feet high. And in the change of plan we may note a slight but encouraging sign of human progress.

Mankind couldn't prevent Cheops from building the Great Pyramid with slave labor. But after nearly 6000 years, civilization has advanced to the point where it can thwart plans for a similar monument erected by similar means.

Most of the writing on the wall is done by little children. Grownups, however, are the ceiling violators.

OUT OF THE WOODS

By JAMES STEVENS

HONORS TO P. BUNYAN
Saying that Paul Bunyan is the only fictional hero of America who deserves a place with the real heroes of our history, Fortune Magazine concludes a series of essays on these great and good personages of the past with a powerful piece on Paul in the July issue.

This is honor indeed for the one and only king jack of the lumber woods and for the men who made him—the pinetops of the Lake States and the bluestem loggers of the Douglas fir, for Fortune is recognized as the top number among America's quality publications.

The Fortune essay points the moral that Paul Bunyan represents the first big job in the making of America—clearing the land for agriculture and doing the groundwork for industry. Also, the simple, straight facts are for once told on what the original lore of Bunyan actually was and on how it grew into printed stories and books.

How the Stories Started
All the evidence I have dug up in 20-odd years of prowling for facts and clues to facts on the start of the Bunyan legend shows the Saginaw Valley of Michigan as its birthplace. After the Civil War the tales were spread through the Lake States pineries by the Irish shanty boys.

Except with rare and special lumberjacks, the Paul Bunyan legend lived and grew among woodsmen in the way of brief, solemn, casual references. An old jack would make such a reference to another old head, nearly always for the benefit of one or more greenhorns, and then go on to a new topic as though nothing unusual had been said.

Sample: "Wasn't you one of Paul Bunyan's river pigs that spring he worked a drive for 'leven

weeks, and then found the blistered river was ROUND? . . . Thought so . . . Well, wasn't that the spring before the spring Tiny O'Teeney broke his leg three feet below the knee? . . . What I was thinkin' of was the time I got my collar bone broke? Didn't I ever tell you? . . . Just about like that.

Both story tellers among the immigrant Irish shanty boys, would of course take the Paul Bunyan gags and weave them into grand tales, like those of the giants of the Old South.

So, as briefly as one may tell it, the Bunyan legend came into being and was carried on. That's my belief anyhow, after years of investigation.

Paul Written Up
In 1914 Douglas Malloch, "the lumberman poet," wrote "The Round River Drive" in verse for the American Lumberman. References to Paul Bunyan had appeared in print before then—the earliest in 1896, as my record goes—but Malloch was the first to make really literary use of the pine woods legend.

In 1920 Lee J. Smith, a Michigan-reared newspaper man, published all of the old Lake States Bunyan story themes in a Seattle journal. Ben Hur Lampman followed suit in 1922, in the Oregonian. At about the same time the Red River Lumber Company of Minnesota and California published a booklet of the Paul Bunyan material it had been using in advertisements since 1914, with text and drawings by W. B. Laughhead.

My first Paul Bunyan book was written in 1924. I used the old themes as texts for tales which I invented, in the way that I had done in the woods. Other writers have produced a total of 17 Paul Bunyan books since. Practically all have presented my inventions as old, old stories of the shanty camps. Heh-heh.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By PETER EDSON

(Register-Guard Washington Correspondent)

THE NEW "BUSINESS AS USUAL"

The big rumpus over Navy's cancellation of the Brewster Aeronautical Corporation contract brought forth a strange rallying cry that sounded a good bit like a plea to continue "War as usual!"

Remember the old wail of "Business as usual!" back in the days before Pearl Harbor, when industry was reluctant to convert to all-out war production?

"War as usual!" is the successor to "Business as usual!" It is inspired by the same selfish motives and you are apt to hear it a lot from here on.

The prayer to continue war business as usual comes from business and labor groups who, having once been persuaded to convert to war production and having made money out of it, want it to go on forever. While moaning out of the corner of the mouth about the hardships of government wartime controls and restrictions, they are yelling out of the other side whenever there is a move made in Washington towards relaxing government controls that would give an advantage to a competitor.

The result is a reconversion babel that beats anything heard in the days of conversion, and it reverse headaches in getting back on the tracks of peace, unless preventives are administered quickly, before invasion success makes cancellations of war contracts the rule instead of the rarity.

Two Ways To Do It—Both Difficult
There are two principal schools of thought on how to go about ending "war business as usual."

The first is to set up some kind of agency in Washington to plan and boss the job. A somewhat faltering step in this direction was taken towards the end of May when War Production Board Chairman Donald M. Nelson announced the naming of a new committee of Army, Navy, Maritime Commission, Manpower and WPB executives to make plans for reconversion on X-day—the date of Germany's collapse.

Can WPB do this job? Can any agency of humans be set up that will be big enough or smart enough to deal with all the problems of business reconversion by government control?

For example, there is still no place in Washington where anyone can go to determine what effect cancellation of any one prime contract will have. Nobody in Washington knows where all the sub-contracts or the sub-sub-contracts are placed, and who will be thrown out of a job in Connecticut, Kansas or California when a prime contract is canceled in Portland, Me., or Portland, Ore.

Nobody in Washington knows what the inventories of parts or stockpiles of raw materials are in all these sub-contracting plants, nor does anyone know to what each of these plants could be reconverted. The "Free Enterprise" Theory

The second theory on bringing an end to "war business as usual" was advanced as long ago as last October by the Senate Truman Committee investigating the war production effort. It is that the government should not determine nor even strongly influence determination of what civilian goods are to be put back in production by whom, in what quantity, or when. In other words, remove restrictions on use of materials as fast as surpluses develop, then cancel contracts as fast as possible and leave the rest to industry.

This is nothing more nor less than exercise of the free enterprise system that business has been yelling for. Maybe business doesn't want this freedom of enterprise as much as it lets on. The Brewster case would seem to indicate that labor as well as management wants government controls left on.

No reconversion of one automobile company, for instance, until all can get back in the game. . . "war business as usual" until all the selfish pressure groups have made sure that they are going to be taken care of, regardless of cost to the taxpayer.

OLIVE BARBER'S OBSERVATIONS

THE CASE OF JUDY
Judy is a very real young woman and I have the feeling you will think rather as I do—that her husband, Joe, should turn her over his knee and paddle her posterior until she comes to her senses.

Before the war friends said Joe and Judy were an ideal couple. They complemented each other, as man and wife should. Joe, in an advertising agency, earned the living; Judy was a good home maker as well as a good housekeeper. They liked and respected each other as people; they loved each other as man and wife.

Then came the war. Joe was drafted. Judy took his job in the advertising agency. Not that she really could take Joe's place, she'd tell friends, but she'd do the best she could. Joe felt very tender toward Judy, seeing her timidity at venturing into a world so foreign to her previous experience. So he encouraged her, telling her she'd do fine and that he'd soon be back.

Then instead of going into active duty as Joe had expected he would, he was stationed near home. He and Judy soon got so places together; could go with the same old crowd.

Judy did fine; so fine, in fact, that it went to her head. At a party Judy soon got so she would tell of her increasing success; then of how she'd landed accounts Joe had been unable to get though he'd tried ever so hard.

At first Joe took her boasting in high good humor; later in a sort of very good humor; later still he just sat and said nothing when Judy went into the theme song of her success. And Judy never noticed the disapproval on the faces of her friends; never noticed their glances of sympathy toward Joe.

For their friends knew these were not normal times; that Judy's success was but another temporary phase of these feverish times. And there was something repellent to them in the young wife's boasting over her husband; making them competitors instead of partners. Too, Joe was doubly defenseless; not only had he been removed from the industrial life but Judy was his wife and if a man is a decent sort he doesn't belittle his wife; you support her, even in her small vanities.

Yes, Judy is being bad; very bad. But she's worth saving and a good spanking, I think, would do the trick.

SOCIETY, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS
By MARIAN LOWRY

JUNIOR CHAMBER AUXILIARY ENTERTAINED

Junior chamber of commerce auxiliary met on Wednesday evening at the home of Mrs. Maurie Jacobs. Mrs. Jack Nasholin and Mrs. William Thompson assisting. Seventeen members attending.

Honors at cards went to Mrs. Hale G. Thompson. Next meeting is to be Aug. 2 at the home of Mrs. Hale G. Thompson, a wiener roast to be held with Mrs. Clinton Hartman and Mrs. Fred Buell assisting.

VISITING HERE

Sergeant and Mrs. Bertrand J. Dotson (Loimaa Rodenbough) are here from Fort Riley, Kansas. Sgt. Dotson being on furlough. He is with an observation battalion.

They are visiting Mrs. Dotson's mother, Mrs. A. F. Neat, 503 Sunnyside drive.

Sgt. Dotson is the son of Mrs. Clara J. Dotson, who is now with the air Wacs stationed in Washington, D.C., and of Glendon H. Dotson of Eugene. Both the young people are former students at the University of Oregon.

DORCAS SOCIETY

Meeting for potluck luncheon Wednesday, the Dorcas society of the Church of the Nazarene changed its afternoon program from a sewing session to one of clean-up at the church. Devotions were held at the opening of the meeting, by Mrs. E. C. Furtwangler. No meeting will be held during August.

SERVICE MOTHERS

Service Mothers' club of the First Christian church held its monthly meeting Thursday evening, with twenty present, two of whom were guests. A business meeting followed devotions, and it was voted the group will help with a plan to furnish fishing tackle to the marine hospital base at Klamath Falls. Dr. George Simons showed moving pictures of Mexico, and talked about the people and conditions of the country as he showed them. The August meeting of the club will be with Mrs. R. O. Evans of Bauer Lane.

Fan Fare
By Glenn Hasselrooth

At the McDonald:

FOUR JILLS IN A JEEP

An "all-star" musical again, but with a difference. This one is based on the book and Post serial by Carole Landis, who wrote the experiences of herself, Milti Mayfair, Martha Raye, and Kay Francis, when they planned to England and Africa to entertain troops in the winter of 1942-43.

Out of that trip, Miss Landis got a husband. In the picture, fictionally, Miss Mayfair teams up with Dick Haymes, and Miss Francis with an army doctor; the adapters have made an attempt to ring a dim halo around each one of the "jills," but otherwise the quartet do convincing work. Slapstick is not underemphasized.

Impressiveness is added by guest-star appearances of Betty Grable, Alice Faye, and Carmen Miranda, each singing one of the songs which helped to make her famous; George Jessel, master of ceremonies; and several stints of dig-dig-dig by Jimmy Dorsey and orchestra.

Biggest surprises are Dick Haymes, the swoon singer, and Martha Raye and Milti Mayfair. His voice should stand him in good stead as long as his type of crooning remains popular, as long as he can sing as well as he does "You Send Me," "How Blue the Night," and "How Many Times."

Martha, as you know, delivers a brand of comedy which could hardly be termed subtle. In "Four Jills in a Jeep," her ebullient moments are well spaced and timed, and we have the word of Miss Landis and Ernie Pyle that the men in Africa and England



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QUOTA FOR HOME NEARLY REACHED

Local quota for support of the home at Eaton Rapids, Mich., has been reached, it was announced at the meeting of the auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Thursday evening, which was held at the home of Mrs. W. S. Knutson and began with a covered dish dinner. The home is one for orphans of service men, and is financed exclusively by the VFW and auxiliary. Mrs. Lester Hill, home fund chairman, announced that the check had been sent as is done annually.

Mrs. Betty Jones of Portland was a special guest. The next meeting will be a regular business session at the Knights of Pythias hall, August 3.

VISITS LODGE

Mrs. Lulu Whobrey of Lowell, district deputy, was a visitor at the meeting of Eugene Royal Neighbors of America, Thursday evening. A watermelon supper followed the meeting. Mrs. W. E. Barker has been named as chairman of refreshments for the next meeting.

FLAG PRESENTED FOR USE IN PARK

Dozens of small flags showered down upon the heads of watchers, from the folds of the large flag presented to Skinner Butte park Thursday afternoon by J. W. Geary past, Woman's Relief corps, as the large eight-by-ten-foot banner was unfurled. Gathered for the ceremony were representatives of the city and of other patriotic groups, as well as members of the corps. Ceremonies were held at two o'clock, following an earlier picnic luncheon by the corps.

Mrs. Dan G. Driscoll, president of the relief corps, acted as master of ceremonies, introducing speakers. Following singing of America, an marse, Mrs. John Newman, patriotic instructor of the host order, presented the flag to Mayor Elissa Large for city use in the park. He accepted the emblem with a short speech. Rev. F. L. Cook offered an invocation, and Caretaker Fred Lamb, assisted by Mrs. Newman, raised the flag.

Mrs. Lillian Rice, chaplain of the corps, gave a patriotic reading, and Lew Hanson led in group singing of God Bless America, with Lester G. Hulin playing organ accompaniment. The flag was dedicated by Mrs. Newman, and the ceremony was closed with a prayer offered by Rev. F. L. Cook.

Western Pine Output Jumps 50 Per Cent Mark

PORTLAND, July 21.—(AP)—Output of western pine lumber climbed from a trough of inactivity last week, with production increasing more than 50 per cent.

Comparison figures, as released by the Western Pine association today (in millions of board feet):

Table with columns: Last Week, Prev. Week, Last Year. Rows: Orders, Shipments, Production.

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STANDING COMMITTEES NAMED IN REBEKAHS

Standing committees were appointed by the noble grand, Mrs. George Mast, in the meeting of Eugene Rebekeh Wednesday evening, at which she first assumed her office. Those named are as follows:

Finance, Mrs. W. F. Wendt, Mrs. Charles Croson and Mrs. Karl E. Dannehl; courtesy, Mrs. Olive Whitmore, Mrs. Rosina Patrick and Mrs. Harry M. Schrenk; flower and card, Mr. and Mrs. John Starr; home, Mrs. Roy Overgard, Mrs. Kathryn Luken and Mrs. W. E. Kelk; publicity, Mrs. Genevieve Nettleton; good of order, Miss Ruple Ross, Miss Myrtle Porter; cheer, Mrs. Lorette Ridgeway, Mrs. Wills Wray and Mrs. Charles Croson; visiting, Mrs. William Forrester, Mrs. Roy Overgard and Mrs. Harry Osborn.

To promote activity within the order, a contest has been started, which will last until November, with Miss Myrtle Porter and Miss Ruple Ross as chairmen of sides. Teams will be known as Waves and Spars, and will be graded on attendance, obtaining new members, decorating and making membership calls.

LOCAL SALESMAN HONORED

Richard H. Hopper of Eugene has been honored by membership in the 1944 Leaders' club of the Oregon Mutual Life Insurance company. Hopper is the local representative for the Perry H. Walbridge general agency. Membership in the club is attained by agents who meet their production quota on a volume and premium basis. Hopper has qualified on a double basis. In previous years he and Mrs. Hopper would have attended a Leaders' club conference at some resort, but for the duration these conventions have been discontinued. In recognition of his outstanding work, Hopper is being furnished an advanced underwriter service and Mrs. Hopper is being given Irish table linen.

The flags of France, Spain, England, the Confederacy and the United States have flown over Biloxi, Mississippi.

FREE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE LECTURE—Mayflower Theater, July 24, 8 p. m., auspices First Church of Christ, Scientist, Eugene. You are invited.

Personal Contact for Fire Permits Advised

Residents of the valley seeking fire permits were asked Thursday by H. W. Lettau, fire warden for the Valley Fire Patrol association, to personally contact him for permits.

Explaining that it is difficult to ascertain the exact fire information necessary for permits over the telephone, Lettau released his traveling schedule to assist those valley residents, who wish to burn during the closed fire season.

Saturday: Coburg, 8-9 a. m.; Springfield, 9:30-10 a. m.; Thurston, 10-10:45 a. m.; Jasper 11-12 noon; Pleasant Hill, 12:15-12:45 p. m.; Goshen, 1-1:30 p. m.; Central Grange, 3:45-4:15 p. m.; Creswell, 1:45-2:45 p. m.; Elmira, 4:30-5:00

p.m.: Danebo, 5:30-6:00 p.m.; Monday: Cheate, 4-4:30 p.m.; Franklin, 6:45-7:15 p.m.; Tuesday: Irving and other districts, 6-8 p. m. at fire station.

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LIBBY'S VIENNA SAUSAGES 1/2's 12c

STANDBY CREAM CORN No. 2 Tin 13

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LIBBY'S DEVEILED MEAT 1/4's 7c 1/2's 10c

MT. HOOD CUT GREEN BEANS No. 2 Tin 13

God's Word Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified. Gal. 2:16 READ: Gal. 2

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